

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1441

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: COUNCIL OPERATIONS EXERCISE COMMITTEE MEETING MARCH 13, 1975

1. AT INFORMAL COEC MEETING ON MARCH 13 TO DISCUSS THE PREPARATION
OF WINTEX 75 AFTER ACTION REPORT, TURKEY REP (SUNGAR) MADE THE
FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE:

SINCE THE START OF PREPARATIONS FOR EXERCISE WINTEX-75
MORE THAN A YEAR AGO, MY AUTHORITIES IN BOTH MILITARY AND
POLITICAL FIELDS DEVOTED INTENSIVE WORK AND RESOURCES TO
CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROPER CONDUCT OF THE EXERCISE.

WE HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED AND STILL BELIEVE IN THE
NECESSITY OF COMMAND POST EXERCISES WHICH ENABLE THE PARTI-
CIPATION OF HIGHEST AUTHORITIES IN CAPITALS AS WELL AS IN
THEIR VALUE FOR PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY TO TEST THE
CRISIS MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND CONSULTATIONS.

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THE REASONS OF OUR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EXERCISE HAVE
BEEN CLEARLY EXPLAINED BY MY AMBASSADOR IN THE DPC ON 7TH
MARCH. HOWEVER, AS A MEMBER OF THIS COMMITTEE WHICH IS
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OVERALL CONDUCT OF THE EXERCISE, I AM

INSTRUCTED TO REMIND THE MEMEBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE ONCE AGAIN THAT WE DID NOT WITHDRAW FROM THIS EXERCISE BUT WE WERE RATHER INCAPACITATED FROM PARTICIPATION IN IT.

THE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE, I BELIEVE, WILL CONCEDE THAT MY AUTHORITIES SHOWED THEIR UTMOST EFFORT AND GOOD WILL PARTICULARLY DURING THE PREPARATIONS OF EXERCISE HILEX-7 BY NOT MAKING REQUESTS WHICH MIGHT HAVE FURTHER COMPLICATED THE EXISTING SITUATION AND REFRAINED FROM ACTIONS THAT COULD HAVE BLOCKED THE AVENUES TO MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RESULTS.

THE REASON OF OUR DECISION IS THE EXCLUSION OF THE AEGEAN SEA AND ITS AIRSPACE FROM THE EXERCISE SCENARIO. IN VIEW OF THIS FACT MY AUTHORITIES CONCLUDED THAT OUR PARTICIPATION WOULD HAVE BEEN MEANINGLESS AS FAR AS THE GOALS OF THIS EXERCISE WERE CONCERNED.

AS A RESULT OF SUCH EXCLUSIONS, THE ORGINALLY ENVISAGED SOVIET THREAT AND AGGRESSION ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE MOVEMENTS OF REINFORCEMENT FORCES ON THE OTHER, WERE ALSO EXCLUDED THUS MAKING THE SCENARIO EVEN MORE UNREALISTIC. THEREFORE I AM INSTRUCTED TO EXPRESS THE REGRET OF MY AUTHORITIES IN NOT BEING ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN WINTEX-75 AND THIER HOPE THAT SUCH DIFFICULTIES WILL NOT ARISE IN THE FUTURE EXERCISES.

LASTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE MY AUTHORITIES ATTACH TO REALISTIC SCENARIOS WHICH COULD THEN CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEFENCE OF OUR ALLIANCE AND WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THIS ALLIANCE IN SUCH EXERCISES. UNQUOTE

2. PRELIMINARY USNATO COMMENTS ON THE CONDUCT OF WINTEX 75 FOLLOW SEPTTEL.
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